

County of Los Angeles – Department of Mental Health
OFFICE OF THE MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION

Thursday, June 23, 2011

~ **Approved Minutes** ~

**Please note the minutes are a brief summary and
not a word for word transcription of events at this meeting.**

Larry Gasco Chairman, Presiding

I. Call to Order – Larry Gasco

- The meeting was called to order by Larry Gasco
- Roll Call – Canetana Hurd
Attendance recorded as follows:
Absent Excused: Greg Thompson, Howard Askins, and Phillip Chen
- Approval of Minutes – Larry Gasco
April 2011 minutes were unanimously approved.
MSC - Perrou/Huffman

II. Chairman's Report – Larry Gasco

- **Annual Retreat** – Delores Huffman facilitated the annual retreat on June 11. The retreat began with a data training session sponsored by CIMH. The goal of the training was to increase knowledge about continuous quality improvement and mental health system indicators, promote discussion and brainstorming with respect to the data and potential contributing factors. Increased knowledge will encourage the development of strategies and recommendations that can be applied to guide improvement in the quality of mental health services delivery.

The group later discussed accomplishments for the past fiscal year and established new and continued goals for the new fiscal year.

Goals for 2011/2012

1. Increase member participation
2. Continue older adults advocacy
3. Mission: Oversight & Accountability
 - Match commissioner advocacy with DMH manager
 - Expand collaborations (joint commission meetings)
 - Write letter to DMH Director requesting that all DMH programs, directly operated and contracted be give written notice regarding the mission of the commission

MHC/SAAC Chairs Meeting – The SAAC Chairs meeting was held June 14. Yvette Townsend presented a draft of the mission statement for all SAACs. Subsequently, Ms. Townsend will meet

with Robin Kay then bring an updated draft to the next SAAC Chairs meeting for discussion.

- **CALMHBC** – The CALMHBC held its annual meeting in Burlingame, California on June 16-18, 2011 to elect new officers. The meeting was organized and well attended with only one contention. Los Angeles County is among one of the largest counties in California; LA is only allowed one vote at CALMHBC's annual meetings and elections.
- **FY 2011/12 Executive Committee Nominations** – The Nominations Committee facilitated a vote by ballot process to finalize the election for new officers. Officers elected to serve on the Executive Committee are:

Chair	Larry Gasco
Vice Chair	Jerry Lubin
Secretary	Delores Huffman
Members-at-Large	Victoria Sofro and Barry Perrou

III. **DMH Report given by Dr. Rod Shaner, Medical Director**

- **Budget** – Dr. Shaner reported the budget picture is stable. The department anticipates receiving additional sales tax revenue for fiscal year 2011-2012.
- **Health Reform** – The 1115 Waiver LIP (Low Income Plan) is a plan to enroll 130,000 clients to receive services provided in primary care homes by July 1, 2011. Seniors 65+ and single adults will automatically be enrolled in managed care for mental and physical services. This plan offers clients better access to services.

The health management consultant agreement is pending board approval. The agreement provides consultants to assist DHS, DMH, and DPH in the implementation of medical homes for designated patients who are eligible for the enhanced federal match for two years as part of the Affordable Care Act. This agreement will offer patients more access to services.

Legislative Report – Susan Rajlal

Ms. Rajlal discussed the following issues:

- The budget is in a holding pattern
- \$821 million funds redirected from MHSA
- AB 3632 funding redirected to schools
- The impact of new enrollees in new services without funding

IV. **Public Hearing on FEMA Grant Application Approval**

Margaret Ayala, Business Continuity Section

Joe Simoneschi, Chief, Administrative Support Bureau

The department's Business Continuity Section is requesting approval from the Commission to apply for grant funding in the amount of \$250,000 from FEMA. The funds will allow DMH to plan a long-term recovery effort and continuation of essential functions during any event that requires a work stoppage exceeding 12 hours.

AGENDA ITEM TABLED – Additional information needed to complete application.

V. **Commissioners' Reports**

Barry Perrou – Dr. Perrou discussed the evaluation results from the Stepping In Conference held April 20. Overall, attendance was at maximum capacity and presenters were rated excellent.

Ilean Rabens – Ms. Rabens discussed how collaborations with other departments and commissions work more efficiently to maximize the services available in LA County. Ms. Rabens wants to invite other commissions and link issues that align with mental health particularly with youth and juveniles.

George Caballero – Mr. Caballero commented he made several attempts to reach out to his health deputy and received no response. Mr. Caballero will continue to meet with health deputies from other districts to move forward with the commission's goals.

Mr. Caballero summarized the progress made in advocacy and collaborations with the aging goal. Out of 8 contacts, 6 agencies have agreed to take on interns into their facilities that serve the aging population. Mr. Caballero spoke with Kaiser's staff in Oakland to discuss a plan to expand collaborations north of Los Angeles County.

Arnold Gilberg – Dr. Gilberg commented in support of Ms. Raben's recommendation to collaborate with other commissions and departments to maximize the quality of services available to clients. Dr. Gilberg also supports the progress George Caballero continues to make with the aging population.

Carlos Sosa – Mr. Sosa reported the TAY and DCFS workgroup will meet in July. The workgroup does not have any conclusions because they are still gathering data. Mr. Sosa also supports the collaboration efforts Ms. Rabens discussed.

Hayward McNeill – Mr. McNeill commended Mr. Caballero's work with the aging population.

Jerry Lubin – Mr. Lubin announced the Commission will be receiving SLT meeting minutes from Rico Rodriguez who facilitates the meeting.

Larry Gasco – Mr. Gasco attended the Spirituality Conference on June 2, 2011 at the Endowment Center. Mr. Gasco stated it is important to meet the needs of the Muslim population in LA County.

Delores Huffman – Huffman spoke about a conversation with Deputy Kathleen Austria. The discussion focused on homeless issues and the release of parolees to LA County.

VI. **Community and SAAC Reports**

LACCC (Los Angeles County Client Coalition) – Pam Inaba

Pam Inaba announced she was reelected as President of the Los Angeles County Client Coalition. Ms. Inaba reported the education and employment services provided in the mental health clinics is improving client independence. She thanked the commission for inviting the LACCC group to the awards ceremony in May and the recognition it received.

VII. **Public Comments –**

Larry Looney – Gave update on LACCC elections.

June Poupesi, Office of Samoan Affairs – Wants the Department of Mental Health to institute OMB Directive 15, new federal standards on Racial Categories. It establishes the new racial category "Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander." Refrain from using Asian Pacific including API, or AANHPI.

Sala Mataalii, Executive Director, Napi Professional Healthcare

Providers – Support implementation of Directive OMB 15, racial category of NHPI. Stop the confusion of lumping/grouping us (NHPI) with Asian Americans. To continue this confusion will continue to mask our needs with that of Asian Americans. We are asking to please implement our category our racial category NHPI (Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islanders)

Maria Elena Juarez – Commented on the mistreatment from staff while visiting 695 S. Vermont Ave.

Sawako Nitao – Announced Homeboy/girl industries successfully opened a shop at City Hall and will be able to get numerous nationwide donations.

Phyllis Coto – Would like to see all major religions represented at SAAC meeting for better cultural competence.

Robert Coto – Commented on changes in DMH

William Legere – Employment in DMH for consumers.

Mark Karmatz – Why were requests for proposals not sent out for the peer operated crisis centers? The Alternatives Conference will take place in Orlando, Florida. Disability rights will meet on Saturday at the Burbank Hilton.

VIII. **Meeting adjourned**

NEXT MEETING LOCATION AND TIME

Thursday, July 23, 2011

12 – 2:30 pm

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration

Room 739

500 West Temple Street

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Please contact the Commission office at (213) 738 4772 if you need more information

Submitted by Canetana Hurd